THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, May 9, 1803.

DESCRIPTION *of* NAGADI.

By VIVANT DENON.

NAGADI or Necadeh, is one of the largeſt and richeſt of the villages ſeated in the deſert, a ſuperiority which reſults from its lying in the route of the caravans, at an opening of one of the roads from Coſſeir to the Nile; and, conſequently from Mecca into Egypt: it contains a conſiderable number of rich inhabitants who are engaged in the commerce of which it is ſtaple, and in the buſineſs of furniſhing camels to the caravans which perpetually paſs through it; there are ſeaſons in which from a thouſand to twelve hundred of theſe animals are kept in this village for hire; and yet this active commerce makes no alteration in its ſilent appearance: its houſes and its ſoil being of the ſame colour, it diſappears as ſoon as the vertical ſun ceaſes to caſt ſhadows: a few wells and ciſterns decide the choice of a ſite for this ſort of villages: the water which moiſtens the earth with which they are built, is one of the moſt precious materials of its fabric: the few women who were ſometimes ſeen ſeated at the angle of the walls, though veiled, diſappeared like hares as ſoon as they ſaw one of the French unexpectedly preſented himſelf, and precipitated themſelves into the holes which ſerved for doors to the dens in which they were hid: one of the characteriſtic features of theſe villages conſiſts in a large number of moes, each of which is a warehouſe for the depoſiting of goods brought acroſs the deſert from the Red-Sea; its little conſtructions with the appearance of jars or tubs are a ſort of tables, on which the people feed their camels; each houſe is an inſulated encloſure, and the ſpaces between them are the ſtreets, in which the paſſenger would loſe himſelf, were it not that he can always ſee his way over the houſes: the ſcale of the height of theſe

will be expreſſed by ſaying, that the head of the camel lying in the yard is always ſeen above their roofs; the landſcape which ſurrounds theſe villages is compoſed of a cloudleſs ſky, burning on an arid ſoil, without a ſign of life in any part of the horizon: one is ſtifled and incapable of ſeeing clearly when one is within-doors; one is broiled and has nothing to ſee when without.

Our manner of life at this period, continues M. Denon, will be ſeen in the deſign: we were extremely happy in finding this melancholy habitation among the tombs of Nagadi, which ſkreened us from the ardour of an almoſt inſupportable ſun: the ſcene repreſents the moment in which the Arabs of Nagadi arrived with their priſoners, the Meccans, bearing a ſort of torches much uſed in Egypt, in nightly marches; on the other ſide are our intendant Copts and interpreters; in the ſecond group are General Belliard, his etat-major, and myſelf.

We ſlept at Balaſs, the place which gives name to the jars of earth, with which its manufactories ſupply not only all Egypt, but Syria and the iſlands of the Archipelago: they have the quality of ſuffering the water to tranſude, and thus clarifying and refreſhing it: fabricated at little charge, they are capable of being ſold ſo cheaply that they are often uſed in forming the walls of houſes, and that the pooreſt inhabitant can procure them in abundance: nature has given the material, ready prepared, and cloſe at hand; this is an heavy, fine, ſoapy, and compact marl, which needs only to be moiſtened and kneaded to become malleable and tenacious; and the veſſels into which it is made, turned, dried, and half-baked in the ſun, are completed in a few hours, by the action of a little fire of ſtraw: theſe veſſels are faſtened together in rafts, of which every traveller into Egypt has ſpoken: they are thus carried along the banks of the Nile, a part being ſold in the progreſs, and the reſt arriving at Raſhid and Damiatt, to be exported to foreign countries: "At Ghenne (or Keneh) is a manufactory of the beſt *bardaks*, *cullé*, earthern bottles and jugs for water. They are made of a fine blue or bluiſh white clay; very thin and light, not too much baked, of a pretty ſhape, and convenient ſize.

Something of the ſame kind is made at other places, but none ſo much eſteemed as at Ghenne. The fabric is in few hands; but great numbers are made. They ſell for double the price at Kahira which they fetch here. Large jars are alſo conſtructed, which are called *hamām*, or bath. Theſe two are very elegantly formed, and both by filtration purify and cool the water, in a greater degree than might be imagined."—Brown's Travels, p. 149. I have found the ſame jars, in the ſame forms, applied to the ſame purpoſes and mounted on the ſame tripods, in the hieroglyphical paintings, and in the illuminations on the manuſcripts.

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The mountains whence the primary matter of these vessels is taken are formed of very soft argilaceous rock, which the water decomposes, and with which it is kneaded at the same time that it is moistened; its fatty and sandy particles are perfectly adapted to the purposes for which it is wanted; it is easily turned; it is then dried in the shade, afterwards in the sun, and lastly, half-baked, by a momentary exposure to a fire of straw. These vessels are actually a cheaper material for house and wall building than brick.

It is the spongeous nature of this earth that causes the transudation of the water it is made to contain, and which gives it a motion that brings the muddy part to the inside coat of the vessel; and this circumstance, together with that of the exterior part being always wet with the transudation, causes the atmosphere to come so little in contact with the vase, that the water becomes almost as cool as by the use of ice, of which Egypt is wholly deprived, by the want of high mountains, and by the mildness of its winters. At the neck of the bardaks, which are applied to the mouth, there are little gratings which prevent the arrival of the water in too great abundance. They are often performed by fumigations of benjamin, or other aromatics, or with orange-flower water, which, in other respects, on coming out of these vessels, is the best that exists in the world. In my travels among the environs of Keneh, I have been frequently at Ballas: I have seen the manufacture, and the immense lading put upon the vessels, or formed into rafts composed of the pots themselves, like our rafts of wood, that are floated to the places for which they are designed.

The form of the bardak and ballasses is in very good taste; having been constantly in general and necessary use, these utensils have retained a chaste model. I have made a remark, that every thing which is of the first necessity, in a country where the arts have at any time existed, preserves its form, through constant imitation.

The Egyptian utensils in iron are quite of another class; these consist of plates, dishes, stew-pans, for boiling meat or soup, and the lid of which, being turned, becomes an hollow dish: I have seen a utensil of similar contrivance among the bowls called etruscan: the next is a boiler, which is used on all occasions requiring hot water, as rice, meat, coffee, &c. and a cup for drinking every thing that is not pure water.

Among the articles of luxury may be mentioned a sort of waiter for presenting a dish of coffee with ceremony to a personage to whom it is desired to show a peculiar respect: this waiter is of silver or gold, and even sometimes adorned with gems: no saucer is used in the east, but, that the cup may not burn the hand, this, which is porcelain, is put into a kind of second cup, which is of silver or gold, and elaborately pierced:

another is an aſperſer, with which roſe-water is thrown on thoſe whom it is intended to treat hoſpitably after a repaſt, or at the end of a viſit, when it is intended to give or take leave; a third is an ewer and its bowl, intended for waſhing the hands and face before dining, and after a repaſt, and in general when any thing is touched: the bowl has a double bottom, pierced with holes, through which the water paſſes, thus taking away from the ſecond perſon that employed by the firſt, and concealing from the ſight the water that has been uſed: a fourth is a profumator, and its plate; this opens in the middle, and is uſed to burn aloes-wood, benjamin, or compound paſtils, upon charcoal: great frofumators, of two or three feet in height, are conſtantly in the centre of the room; the ſmaller ones are carried round, and each throws the fume upon his beard or his clothes. This ſuperfluity, of which we were not hitherto informed, is adapted to nations who ſeek enjoyments free from motion, who gravely ponder on their ſenſations, who do not love to ſpeak, and who find in theſe ſort of cuſtoms an additional civility to offer thoſe whom they would treat and diſtinguiſh: it is ſlaves that move; a geſture of the hand ſuffices for doing honours, ſo that in a viſit of intereſt or reſpect, ſweetmeats, ſherbet, coffee, the permanent pipe, roſe-water, and perfumes, nearly fill up the time, eſpecially with the addition of a few adages, as You look well,—God is great, moſt great, and ſome others, that do not require more words: they ſeparate without any ſtrong deſire to meet again; each finds at home the ineffable happineſs of being at his eaſe, of having nothing to do, of enjoying repoſe. This effeminacy, ſo mild in appearance, is nevertheleſs the ſource of all the vices with which the oriental character is disfigured; it is to arrive at this beloved end, that it is rapacious, ſelfiſh, avaricious, cruel, tyrannical, atrocious.

Seated in the ſhade, with his pipe, his coffee, his cat, his birds, and his children, the oriental is ſurrounded with all he loves: he is teazed but never wearied by the children, of whom he is fond to idolatry: happy were it, if amidſt enjoyments thus gentle, he became good and virtuous, and if he were without haughtineſs and indolence, which inſpire him with ſelfiſhneſs, and ſpoil all his good qualities.

Excellent Letter from Biſhop Hildeſley to the Rev. Mr. Thornton, Nottingham.

DEAREST SIR, Biſhop's Court, Iſle of Man, April 23, 1768.

YOUR letter of the 30th of March revived me much, and I may ſafely ſay, gave me more real pleaſure than I had received ſince I ſaw you. No intelligence could have been more

more gratifying to me than to hear that you and your virtuous partner are enjoying peace and happineſs, and that your ſon Robert is ſo bountifully provided for—I hope and believe it is no more than he deſerves; and you may depend upon it, my ſincereſt prayers to Almighty God for him ſhall not be wanting, that he may be enabled to diſcharge, with credit to himſelf and to the ſatisfaction of thoſe committed to his charge, the very important truſt he has taken upon himſelf. I make no doubt you have given him all the good advice which piety and paternal kindneſs could ſuggeſt, and heartily wiſh that you may live long to ſee him proſpering in his work in the Lord's vineyard.

The ſpring, which enlivens and cheers every place, as you have experienced ſome weeks ago in England, begins now to ſpread its wiſhed-for effects to this iſland. My ſhrubs, I am in hopes, have not received any material injury from the violence of the north during the winter months; as many plants as my hall would contain conveniently, I removed there for ſhelter, a precaution for which I am now amply repaid.

How much am I indebted to my worthy predeceſſor,* for cultivating the grounds around the epiſcopal manſe; he could not endure to ſee any thing go to ruin for want of cultivation: this aſſertion of him will ſtand good with reſpect to his care for the beſt intereſts of this before deſolated people, as well as when taken in a literal ſenſe. I take more pleaſure in my garden than any thing elſe—it opens a fertile field for uſeful reflections; the various beauties of every herb and plant, from the meaneſt moſs to the talleſt oak, tend to fill a thoughtful mind with veneration for the goodneſs and œconomy of the great and wiſe Governor of the World. Well might the royal pſalmiſt exclaim—"Oh Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all!"

I begin, my dear friend, to feel the infirmities to which our frail nature is ſubject creeping upon me; when you ſee me again, you will ſay that my looks teſtify that I am not proof againſt that irreſiſtible ravager—TIME. While we find ourſelves thus gradually deſcending into the grave, ſurely we ought to take the ſeaſonable warning betimes, and prepare for that awful change which will tranſlate us from this corruptible world into the preſence of the great and adorable Jehovah. May every ſucceeding year make us wiſer and better! and while we ſtrive to live to the glory of God, may we at length be enabled to triumph over our laſt and moſt formidable enemy. If we are the objects of the divine love, we need not fear; God will ſuffer us to ſojourn here as long as his wiſdom ſhall ſee fit, and a the moſt proper and convenient time will remove us to eternity.

To

* The truly pious and laborious Dr. Wilſon.

To Mrs. Thornton I beg my ſincereſt remembrances and beſt wiſhes. If you are going ſoon into Hertfordſhire, remember me kindly to our many common and agreeable friends there. When I indulge fond and pleaſing thoughts of former times, of my dear companions whom I knew from my earlieſt youth, ſome of which are mingled with the duſt, and ſome few remain now in Hertfordſhire, I cannot help entertaining a wiſh, natural to all I believe, of dying in my native country: but as an all-wiſe providence has placed me here, it is incumbent upon me to be content, and to finiſh the great work which he has given me to do.

To the ſame all-wiſe providence I always commend you and your's in my prayers, and that moſt heartily and unfeignedly, and am at all times

Your moſt affectionate friend,
And willing fellow-ſervant,
MARK SODOR and MAN.

MEMOIRS *of the laſt* DUKE *of* BRIDGWATER.

HIS grace Francis Egerton, duke of Bridgwater, died on the 7th of March, 1803, in Cleveland-row, St. James's. He was born May 21, 1736. He ſucceeded his brother John, the late duke, in February, 1748. Dying unmarried, the title of duke becomes extinct, but the title of earl of Bridgwater, with the other minor titles, deſcend to Major-General John William Egerton, colonel of the 14th regiment of dragoons, eldeſt ſon of Dr. Egerton, late biſhop of Durham, who was grandſon of John, the third earl of Bridgwater. That time and fortune which too many others have devoted to purpoſes, if not injurious to ſociety, at leaſt uſeleſs, his grace ſpent in purſuits that entitle him to be called the benefactor of his country. By his active ſpirit and unſhaken perſeverance he amaſſed immenſe wealth. But the public grew rich with him, and his labours were not more profitable to himſelf than they were to his country.

He has left his eſtate in Hertfordſhire, with his houſe, pictures, plate, &c. valued at 150,000l. to Earl Gower, together with his canal property in Lancaſhire, which brings in from 50,000l. to 80,000l. per annum. All this property is entailed on Earl Gower's ſecond ſon; his firſt ſon will inherit the marquis of Stafford's eſtates. To General Egerton, now earl of Bridgwater, he has left his eſtate at Aſhridge, in Buckinghamſhire (where he was interred); alſo his eſtates in Shropſhire and Yorkſhire, worth upwards of 30,000l. per annum. About 600,000l. in the funds he has left chiefly to General Egerton,

and partly to the countefs of Carliſle, Lady Anne Vernon, and Lady Louiſa Macdonald, the chief baron's lady.

But it may be neceſſary here to enter into an ampler detail of his grace's life and character. The late duke rendered himſelf conſpicuous by being the patron, and, it may be ſaid, the father of a moſt important public undertaking, which muſt in the end be attended with the greateſt national benefit. He was the firſt man who countenanced the plan and ſupported the expence of cutting a navigable canal in this kingdom. This great project he had digeſted in his mind before he was of age, and as ſoon as he came in poſſeſſion of his fortune, proceeded to put it in execution. Among other eſtates, he had one at Worſley, in the county of Lancaſter, rich in coal mines; but which, on account of the expence of land-carriage, although the rich and flouriſhing town of Manchefter was ſo near, was of little value. Deſirous of working theſe mines to advantage, he formed the plan of a navigable canal from his own eſtate at Worſley to Manchefter. For this purpoſe he conſulted the ingenious Mr. Brindley, who had already given ſome ſpecimens of his wonderful abilities, on the probability of executing ſuch a work. That artiſt, having ſurveyed the ground, at once pronounced it to be practicable.

Accordingly, in the ſeſſion of parliament 1758-9, the duke applied for a bill to make a navigable canal from Salford, near Manchefter, to Worſley. His grace met with great oppoſition in its paſſage through the two houſes; and it would now appear inconceivable that ſuch ſtrong prejudices ſhould have been entertained againſt a plan of public utility, ſo apparently advantageous. The duke, however, ſucceeded, and immediately ſet about his work, which appeared to promiſe ſo well, that the next year he applied for, and obtained another act to enable him to extend the line, and to paſs from Worſley over the river Irwell, near Barton-bridge, to the town of Manchefter. The duke of Bridgwater had not only the merit of having ſpirit to commence works of ſuch immenſe magnitude, but alſo for having called into action the great abilities of the late Mr. James Brindley, who, with little aid from education, and leſs knowledge of the mathematics, planned and executed works which would have done honour to the firſt and beſt of artiſts.

This canal begins on Worſley-mill, about ſeven computed miles from Manchefter, where the duke cut a baſon capable of holding all his boats, and a great body of water which ſerves as a reſervoir or head for his navigation. The canal enters a hill by a ſubterraneous paſſage big enough for the admiſſion of flat-bottom boats, which are towed along by hand-rails, near a mile under ground, to his coal-works; then the paſſage divides into two, both of which may be continued at pleaſure. This paſſage is in ſome places cut through the ſolid rock, and in others

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is arched with brick. Air-funnels are cut in ſeveral places to the top of the hill. The arch at the entrance is about ſix feet wide, and widens in ſome places for the boats to paſs each other: the boats are loaded from waggons which run on railed ways. Five or ſix of theſe boats, which carry ſeven tons each, are drawn along by one horſe to Mancheſter. The canal in other places is carried over public roads by means of arches, and where it is too high the road is lowered with a gentle deſcent, and riſes again on the other ſide.

But one of the moſt ſtupendous works on this canal is the noble aqueduct over the river Irwell, where the canal runs forty feet above the river, and where the duke's barges are ſeen paſſing on the canal, and the veſſels in the river in full ſail under them. At Barton-bridge, three miles from Worſley, this aqueduct begins, and is carried for upwards of two hundred yards over a valley; and at the Irwell it is about forty feet above the level of the river. When the works approached this ſpot, they were viewed by ſeveral artiſts who pronounced the completion impracticable, and one ſurveyor went ſo far as to call it *building a caſtle in the air*. The duke was repeatedly adviſed to drop the buſineſs, but, confiding in the aſſurances of Mr. Brindley, he perſevered, and the aqueduct over the river Irwell will remain as a monument of the public ſpirit of the duke of Bridgwater, and the abilities of the artiſt, for ages.

In this canal are many ſtops and flood-gates, ſo contrived, that ſhould any of the banks give way, the flood-gates riſe by the motion, and prevent any great quantity of water from overflowing the country. The aqueduct is conſtructed at conſiderable labour and expence. Indeed, the duke had reſolved that in the execution of this work no expence ſhould be ſpared, and that every thing ſhould be complete; and that, to avoid locks, the canal ſhould be conſtructed on a level, to accompliſh which many difficulties occurred, which to any genius leſs fertile than Brindley's would have been inſurmountable.

The aqueduct, which is carried over meadows on each ſide the Merſey, and acroſs Sale Moor, at incredible expence, required of Brindley all the exertions of his art, and deſerves to be noticed. He firſt cauſed trenches to be made, and then placed deal balks in an upright poſition, backing and ſupporting them with other balks laid lengthways and in rows, driving in ſome thouſands of oak piles of different lengths between them, on the front ſide of which he threw the clay and earth, and rammed them together to form the canal. Having thus finiſhed forty yards, he removed the balks, and proceeded as before. At Stratford the caiſſoon was forty yards long and thirty-two broad. Open bottomed boats were employed in this caiſſoon to carry and diſcharge loads of earth, and thereby raiſe the ground where the level required it. At Cambroke is a circular wear to keep

the water of the canal to its proper height; the ſurplus flows over the nave of a circle in the middle of the wear, and, by a ſubterraneous tunnel, is conveyed to the uſual channels. In order to feed that end of the navigation which is near Mancheſter, Brindley raiſed the river Medlock by a large and beautiful wear, built of ſtone, bedded in terraſs, and clamped with iron. The water, when at a proper height, to ſupply the navigation, flows over the nave. In ſhort this canal is carried over rivers and vallies, and no obſtacle ſeems to have been capable of impeding Brindley in the execution of his plan. The ingenuity and contrivance diſplayed throughout the whole is wonderful. The ſmiths' forges, carpenters' and maſons' workſhops, were all on covered barges, which floated on the canal, and followed the work from place to place.

Having completed this work in the year 1760, the whole was opened in preſence of the duke, many of his friends, and a vaſt concourſe of people from every part of the country, with great ceremony and rejoicing; and his grace had the ſatisfaction to ſee the extraordinary man he had patronized, ſucceed even beyond his hopes.

But the duke's deſigns were not confined to this canal. On a further ſurvey and taking levels, he found it practicable to extend it from Longford-bridge to the river Merſey; and, in 1762, he applied for another act of parliament to carry that object into effect. Here, alſo, he met with a ſtrong and ill-judged oppoſition, but at length ſucceeded; and the ſucceſs of this undertaking is another proof of the duke's judgment. The whole length from Worſley to Mancheſter is twenty-nine miles; there is not any fall on the whole line, except at Runcorn, into the river Merſey, where there are locks which convey the boats down ninety-four feet into the river, in a very ſhort ſpace of time. The whole was completed in about five years. But what is is ſeen above ground, is only a part of the duke's ſtupendous undertaking. His mines run under a large mountain, and a ſubterraneous paſſage is cut in the hill to an amazing extent, which, being level with the canal, is uſed to convey out the boats.

To enter further into a detail of the duke's works is unneceſſary; it is ſufficient to ſay they have fully anſwered his purpoſe. An idea my be formed of the immenſe profit ariſing from this undertaking by a recent event. When the loan, commonly called the loyalty loan, was negociating his grace was able to ſubſcribe for, and actually paid down immediately, the ſum of 100,000l.

Beſides the duke's concern in this canal, he has been a liberal promoter of and ſubſcriber to that great work, the Grand Trunk-navigation, which extends from his own navigation, at Preſton-brook, to the river Trent, near Derby. He was, indeed, ſo

convinced of the utility of these kinds of undertakings, as to be always ready to assist with his parliamentary influence for the furthering of any well-digested plan.

In politics, the duke of Bridgwater did not take any very active part. Yet we sometimes found him at his place in the house of peers. In 1762 his name is in the division, on a motion to withdraw the British troops from Germany, and on the loss of the motion joining in a protest. When the repeal of the American stamp act was in agitation, his grace was a strong opposer of that measure; and in 1784, when a certain powerful interest was made use of to prevent Mr. Fox's India-bill from passing into a law, the duke was active therein. In general his politics were guided by that of his noble brother-in-law the marquis of Stafford.

Translation of Queen Elizabeth's Letter to Margaret Heyld, recommending to her as a Husband, Robert Colshill.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, &c. to the noble virgin, endued with distinguished virtue, Margaret Heyld, our most illustrious friend, greeting. The great fame which is spread about of your virtue and integrity, and also of your no common respect for us, occasions, though we have not seen you with our eyes, that we treat with you at this time, in a familiar manner by these letters; for the affair, concerning which we write, will not be more desirable to us, than, as we hope, happy and auspicious to you.

We have, at this time sent into Germany the bearer of these, Robert Colshill, a gentleman distinguished for his family, and also for the virtue and consummate fortitude of his mind, a pensionary of our family, very dear to us, to transact business of our's of no light moment. He is so inflamed with the bent of your genius, with the celebrity of your morals, that there can be no ardour in love that he does not possess; which, indeed, we conjecture before-hand, has been long very well known to you by many tokens. We indeed are so favourably disposed to his most honourable wishes, as very earnestly to desire that this affair may have a favourable issue, according to his prayers, and so much the rather because we can have no doubt that the marriage will turn out fortunately and happily for the advantage of you both, and because we entertain a hope that you will, some time or other, come into England, and pay us a visit (which indeed we very much desire).

What weight our recommendation may have with you, will rest entirely in your own power. But, if we have any judgment, you will not be able, in choosing a husband, to do any thing more prudent, more useful in point of interest, or more calculated

calculated to advance your reputation, than to chooſe the man of our recommendation, all which we have good confidence in, and firmly promiſe to ourſelves.

Laſtly, we teſtify, as much weight as you give to our recommendation in chooſing this huſband, ſo much of our favour will you add to yourſelf; and, for this your inclination of mind towards us, you ſhall always find us mindful and grateful. Health and happineſs to you. Given at Greenwich, May 18, 1576, in the eighth year of our reign.

Account of the Manufacture of Morocco Leather at Karaſubazar.

IN Karaſubazar is an ancient manufacture of morocco leather, of which they make large quantities from the ſkins of the numerous flocks of Tauric goats.

They begin the proceſs by cleaning the ſkins in the following manner. After having ſteeped ſome raw hides in cold water for twenty-four hours, to free them from blood and other impurities, the fleſhy parts are ſcraped off with proper inſtruments. They are next macerated for ten days in cold lime-water, to looſen the hair, which is likewiſe ſcraped off as clean as poſſible.

For fifteen days they lie in clean cold water, and then are worked under foot in a ſucceſſion of clean waters; the laſt being impregnated with dog's dung, to looſen the hair ſtill more; when they receive a ſecond ſcraping, and are drained of their humidity; which finiſhes the cleaning proceſs.

They now proceed to what they call feeding the ſkins, by ſteeping them four days in a cold infuſion of wheat bran; then in a decoction of honey and water, twenty-eight pounds to five pails, cooled down to the temperature of new milk; out of which they are put under preſs into a veſſel with holes at the bottom to let the liquor eſcape. They are, laſtly, ſteeped four days in a light ſolution of ſalt and water, one pound to five pails; this finiſhes the preparation; and the leather is now ready to receive the dye.

A ſtrong decoction of artemiſa annua, or ſouthernwood, in the proportion of four pounds to ten pails of water, ſeems to be the baſis of all the different colours that they give to the morocco in the Taurida Aſtracan, and the other cities formerly belonging to the Tartar empire, where the ſecret has remained till now.

When a red colour is intended, a pound of cochineal in powder is gradually ſtirred into ten pails of the fine yellow decoction of artemiſa, and boiled up in it for half an hour, with five or ſix drachms of alum, and poured on the leather in a proper

veſſel. They are next worked under feet in an infuſion of oak-leaves and warm water, till they become ſupple and ſoft; when they are finally rinſed in cold water, then rubbed over with olive oil, and calendered with wooden rollers; which finiſhes the manufacture.

The yellow morocco is dyed with the decoction of artemiſia aloe; only ſtronger, twenty pounds of it to fifteen pails, being the proportion when uſed without other admixture; but two pounds of alum in fine powder, is gradually added, by half a table ſpoonful at a time; and with this each ſkin is twice ſtained before the laſt operations of oiling and callendering.

It is, however, neceſſary to remark, that there is a little difference in the preparation of the ſkins for receiving the pure yellow dye deſcribed above; as neither honey nor ſalt are uſed; but, inſtead of them, the hides are ſteeped for two days in an infuſion of oak-leaves, (immediately after being taken out of the infuſion of bran, wherein they muſt have lain four) and then worked under feet for a few hours of two days; next rinſed in cold water, and placed one above another on poles, to drain off the water, and make them ready for ſtaining.

On the Manner of Hunting and Sporting by the Engliſh in Bengal.

[By Colonel G. Ironſide.]

FEW parties of pleaſure can be more agreeable than thoſe for hunting, formed by ladies and gentlemen in Bengal, particularly at ſome diſtance from the preſidency of Fort William, where the country is pleaſanter, and game of every kind in greater plenty. Any time between the beginning of November and end of February is taken for theſe excurſions; during which ſeaſon the climate is delightfully temperate, the air perfectly ſerene, and the ſky often without a cloud.

To tranſport the tents and other requiſites, for the accommodation of the company, to ſome verdant ſpot, near to a grove and rivulet, previouſly ſelected, elephants and camels are borrowed; ſmall country carts, oxen, and bearers hired, at no conſiderable expence, the price of all kinds of grain, and wages of courſe, being exceedingly reaſonable. Nor does the commanding officer of the troops within the diſtrict often refuſe a guard of ſepoys to protect the company from the danger of wild beaſts, (for ſuch generally reſort to the haunts of game), or the depredations of ſtill wilder banditti, now and then pervading the country.

The larger tents are pitched in a ſquare or circle, while thoſe for the guards and ſervants uſually occupy the outer ſpace,

Every

Every marquée for a lady is divided into two or three apartments, for her camp-bed, her cloſet, and her dreſſing room; is carpeted or matted, and is covered with a ſpreading fly, for defence againſt rain, or excluſion of caſual heat, the air ventilating powerfully between the vacuity (about two feet) of the tent and its canopy in unremitted undulation. The doors or curtains of the marquée, wattled with a ſweet-ſcented graſs, are, if the weather chance to become ſultry, continually ſprinkled with water from the outſide; and a chintz wall, ſtained in handſomely figured compartments, encompaſſes the whole.

For the ſupply of common food, if no village be very near, petty chander ſhops enow are engaged by the family banyans (houſe ſtewards) to accompany them, glad to profit of ſuch an opportunity of gain. Liquors and every ſpecies of European articles are provided by the party themſelves.

Horſes are employed for the conveyance of the gentlemen, and palanquins for the ladies, with their female attendants; and, where the roads will admit of it, cloſe and open Engliſh carriages alſo.

Part of the morning ſports of the men, commencing at dawn of day, conſiſt in rouſing and chaſing the wild boar, the wolf, and antelope (or gazelle), the roebuck, the muſk, the red and other deer, hares, foxes, and jackalls: beſide the common red, the ſpotted and the ſmall mooſe, there are ten or twelve ſorts of hog or ſhort-briſtled deer.

Boars are uſually found among the uncultivated tracts, or the more regular plantations of ſugar-canes, which give to their fleſh the fineſt flavour imaginable. Wolves and jackalls are ſeen prowling and lurking, at break of day, about the ſkirts of towns and villages, or retiring from thence to their dens within woods; or within pits, hollows, or ravines, on the downs.

Hares ſhelter in the ſame ſituations as in England.

The hog, roebuck, and muſk deer, conceal themſelves among the thickeſt heath and herbage, and the antelope and large deer rove on the plains. All theſe animals, however, reſort not rarely to the jungles (or very high coarſe and implicated graſs) with which the levels of Hindoſtan abound, either to graze, to browſe, or in purſuit of prey.

A country of Aſia, abounding in ſuch variety of game, is, of courſe, not deſtitute of wild beaſts; the principal of which are the tiger, leopard, panther, tiger-cats, bear, wolf, jackall, fox, hyæna, and rhinoceros. The leopards are of three or four kinds.

Or the gentlemen divert themſelves with ſhooting the ſame animals; as alſo common partridge, rock partridge, hurrial or green pigeons, quail, plover, wild cocks and hens, curlews; black, white, and gray peacocks; florikens, ſtorks of ſeveral kinds and colours, together with water hens, Braminy geeſe,

cranes, wild geeſe and ducks, teal, widgeons, ſnipes, and other aquatic fowl, in infinite abundance; many of them of extraordinary ſhape, of glowing variegated plumage, and of unknown ſpecies; whoſe numbers almoſt cover the water while they ſwim, and, when alarmed, and fluſhed from the lakes, like a cloud, abſolutely obſcure the light.

The foxes are ſmall, ſlenderly limbed, delicately furred with a ſoft brown hair, and by no means rank in ſmell; feeding, principally upon grain, vegetables, and fruit. They are exceedingly fleet and flexible, though not ſtrong or perſevering. When running, they wind in ſucceſſive evolutions to eſcape their purſuers, and afford excellent ſport. Their holes are uſually excavated, not in woods, but on hillocks, upon a ſmooth green ſward or lawn, where, in a morning or evening, they are ſeen playing and friſking about with their young. They feed generally among the corn, and are oftenеſt found within fields of muſtard or linſeed, when it has ſprouted up high enough to conceal them.

A minor critic, on peruſal of Æſop's or rather Pilpay's fables, ridiculed the idea of foxes feeding upon grapes; but, had he conſulted any Aſiatic natural hiſtory, he would have learnt that they ſubſiſt upon grain, pulſe, and fruit, particularly grapes and pine-apples when within their range, much more than upon fleſh or fowl. Or, had he turned to the Bible, he would have there found the following paſſage in confirmation of it: "Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that ſpoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes."—Canticles, ch. ii. ver. 15.

Jackalls are rather larger than Engliſh foxes; but of a brown colour, clumſier ſhape, and not ſo pointed about the noſe. In nature, they partake more of the wolf than of the dog or fox. Their real Aſiatic name is ſhugaul, perverted by Engliſh ſeamen trading to the Levant (where they are in plenty on the coaſts of Syria and Aſia Minor) into jackalls.

Of the partridge there are ſeveral kinds, one with a white belly, and another ſomething like gouſe, only more motley feathered.

Plover too are various; and, when the weather becomes warm, ortolans traverſe the heaths and commons in immenſe flocks.

There are no pheaſants in the woods of Bengal or Bahar nearer than the confines of Aſſam, Chittagong, and the range of mountains ſeparating Hindoſtan from Tibet and Napaul. But there, particularly about the Morung and in Betiah, they are large and beautiful, more eſpecially the golden, the burniſhed, the ſpotted, and the azure, as well as the brown argus pheaſant.

As for peacocks they are every where in multitudes, and of two or three ſpecies. One tract in Oriſſa is denominated Morebunje, or the peacock diſtrict.

Cranes are of three ſorts, and all of a cærulean grey: the very lofty one, with a crimſon head, called ſarus; the ſmalleſt, called curcurrah, (the demoiſelle of Linneus and Buffon) uncommonly beautiful and elegant, whoſe ſnow-white tuft, behind its ſcarlet-glowing eyes, is the appropriate ornament for the turban of the emperor alone; and the middle-ſized one with a black head, the common grus. They return to the northern mountains about the autumnal equinox, after ceſſation of the periodical rains, with their young, in myriads of flights, frequent as the wood pigeon in North America; and ſometimes, when the wind is very violent, flocks of them mount to a vaſt height in the air, and there wind about in regular circles, ſeemingly with much delight, and venting all the time a harſh diſcordant ſcream, heard at a conſiderable diſtance.

In the wilds of Hindoſtan certainly originated the common domeſtic fowl, for there they are diſcovered in almoſt every foreſt. They are all bantams, but without feathers on their legs; the cocks are in colour all alike, what ſportſmen call ginger red; they have a fine tufted cluſter of white downy feathers upon their rumps, are wonderfully ſtately in their gait, and fight like furies. The hens are invariably brown. It is extremely pleaſant, in travelling through the woods early in a morning, to hear them crowing, and to perceive the hens and chickens ſkulking and ſcudding between the buſhes. For food, they are neither ſo palatable nor tender as the tame fowl.

Florekins are among the *non deſcripta*, I believe, in ornithology. A drawing can alone exhibit an adequate repreſentation of this fine bird; it harbours in natural paſtures among the long graſs, on the extremity of lakes, and the borders of ſwampy grounds, lying between marſhy ſoils and the uplands. Hence its fleſh ſeems to partake, in colour and reliſh of the nature and flavour of both the wild duck and the pheaſant; the colour of the fleſh on the breaſt and wing being brown, but on the leg perfectly white, and the whole of the moſt delicate juicy, and ſavoury flavour conceivable.

There are only three claws to its feet; the roots of the feathers of the female are of a fine pink colour.

When the cock riſes up, ſome fine black velvet feathers, which commonly lie ſmooth upon his head, then ſtand up erect, and form a tuft upon his crown and his neck.

When ſet by dogs, it lies cloſe, and ſcarcely ever riſes till the fowler is ſo near as almoſt to tread upon it. The neſt of it is made among the graſs.

You read of them in deſcriptions of ancient knightly feſti-feſtivals of the Nevilles, Percys, Mortimers, Beauchamps, Montacutes, De Courceys, Mohuns, Courtenays, and Mowbrays, under the name, I believe, of ſlanderkins; but whether they were then natives of England, I am uncertain.

The

The height of the cock florekin of Bengal, from the ground, when he ſtands, to the top of his back, is ſeventeen inches.

The height from the ground to the top of his head, when he holds it upright, is twenty-ſeven inches.

The length from the tip of his back to the end of his tail, is twenty-ſeven inches.

In no part of ſouthern Aſia did I ever hear of woodcocks; but among the breed of ſnipes there is one called the painted ſnipe, larger than ordinary, and which well compenſates for want of the former.

Fiſhing, both with lines and diverſity of nets, is the employment of other ſets of the party; or the hawking of herons, cranes, ſtorks, and hares, with the falcon; and of partridge and leſſer birds, with the ſparrow and ſmall hawks.

Ladies now and then attend the early field: if it be to view the courſing or hawking, they mount upon ſmall gentle (for they are all gentle) female elephants, ſurmounted with arched-canopied and curtained ſeats; otherwiſe they ride on horſeback: more frequently however in palanquins, under which, as well as under the elephants and horſes, the birds, (particularly the white ſtork or paddy bird) when pounced at by the hawks, and the little foxes, when hard preſſed by the dogs, often fly for ſhelter and protection. In general, however, the ladies do not riſe betimes, nor ſtir out till the hour of airing.

(To be continued.)

A Letter from Dr. Secker, on being made Biſhop of Briſtol, to Mr. Fox, of Plymouth.

SIR, *May* 8, 1736.

I Return you my hearty thanks for the congratulations you have made me in ſo obliging a manner, and for your friendly expreſſions of good will and good opinion, which I place a high value upon, as they come from a perſon, whoſe frankneſs and ſincerity I remember very well, and eſteem very truly. I hope your private manner of life has been free from any great uneaſineſs; and I aſſure you the more public one which I lead has no great ſatisfaction in it. I endeavour to think as juſtly, and to act as rightly, as I can. I do my beſt to do no harm in the world, and it is not eaſy to do much good; every one in his ſtation, however, ſhould try. And, I hope, the experience I have had of the world has tended to ſtrengthen in me one diſpoſition very neceſſary to this end; a diſpoſition to think reaſonably and mildly of all men, and to reſpect and honour all good and virtuous men; from which principle, I am, with ſincere regard, Sir, your affectionate humble ſervant,

THOMAS BRISTOL.

A RE-

A REFLECTION.

WE ſhould firſt of all correct our own faults, before we attempt to correct the faults of others; but it frequently happens, that whilſt we are very ſevere in our cenſures upon others, we palliate our own conduct, however reprehenſible. The cauſe of this is, the immoderate degree of ſelf-partiality which is ſo common among mankind.

ACCOUNT *of* KENNEDY's ISLAND.

THROUGH the means of Mr. Arrowſmith ſome important communications have been received from Port Jackſon, conſiſting of obſervations made in the North and South Pacific by Mr. Simpſon, commander of the Nautilus. This gentleman has diſcovered, in S. lat. 11° 17′, and E. long. 167°58′, an iſland which he has called Kennedy's Iſland. From its beautiful appearance, united to its being well inhabited, Mr. Simpſon is of opinion that it may prove a valuable acquiſition to our new colony, particularly as it produces hogs in abundance.

"The natives are ſavage, artful, and treacherous upon Dexter's Group, or Duff's Group, which obliged me to fire upon them: and this may be a neceſſary precaution to any perſon who may wiſh to land upon them hereafter.

"Upon the iſland Diſappointment I landed ſome fowls; and ſowed ſeveral ſorts of ſeeds, and put ſome plants into the ground. In two previous voyages I paſſed this iſland, without the precaution of looking for land, as I am ſure many other navigators have done. We found upon it the remains of a very large lower maſt, next the keel, which led us to think ſome large Spaniſh ſhip had been wrecked upon it: but it muſt have been long ſince, as the timber was greatly decayed.

"Though theſe iſlands are thinly inhabited, we ſcarcely ſaw one in the whole of the group but had natives upon it; and when our diſtance ſunk the reefs below the horizon which extends from iſland to iſland, the natives, as they croſſed from one to the other, preſented the appearance of a regiment of ſoldiers marching round the horizon on the ſurface of the ſea. All the iſlands are exceeding low, and ſhew at firſt, like all the reſt in this labyrinth, a few ſcattered trees above the horizon. This circumſtance will demonſtrate their danger to a ſeaman; who cannot be too much on his guard in ſo perilous a navigation. I am fully perſuaded that not one hundredth part of them are known to navigators. They appeared to us to be formed of coral and ſand, lightly covered with a thin black ſoil; the ſtones on the ſhore had the appearance of having been burnt; they were black, porous, and light."

Anſwer, by J. Chubb, of Everſhot, to R. Bellows's Rebus, inſerted March 7.

YOUR rebus, if I judge aright,
Plainly preſents POOLE to my ſight.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. B. Bloomfield, T. Adey, Amicus, and J. Lewis, of Poole; W. Gifford, of South Petherton; Henry Humphreys, J. Squance, W. Strong, R. Holwell, and E. Moon, of Exeter; J. Whittle, of Upway; B. Hayman, and W. C. of Buckfaſtleigh; J. O. Zillwood, of Dorcheſter; R. Berry, of South Molton; T. Bullock, of St. Columb; and B. Fiander, of Melbury Oſmond.

Anſwer, by W. L'Orient, of Exeter, to P. Gove's Charade, inſerted March 7.

THE careful WATCH-MAN in the night
Will let you know if all is right.

*** We have received the like anſwer from R. Holwell, Thomas Whicker, J. Squance, H. Humphreys, and W. Strong, of Exeter; J. B. Bloomfield, of Poole; S. L. Margary, of Newton Abbot; W. C. of Broadhempſton; Thomas Coumbe, of St. German's; R. Berry, of South Molton; T. Bullock, of St. Columb; and J. Channon, of Ottery.

Anſwer, by T. Rutger, of Clowance, to J. Whittle's Charade, inſerted March 14.

IF your firſt is a metal, and ſecond a meaſure,
'Twill point out a STEEL-YARD to thoſe who're at leiſure.

*** We have received the like anſwer from J. Whittle, of Upway; John Squance, and H. Humphreys, of Exeter; W. Gifford, of South Petherton; J. B. Bloomfield, and Thomas Adey, of Poole; J. O. Zillwood, of Dorcheſter; J. Chubb, of Everſhot; B. Fiander, of Melbury Oſmond; and G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton.

An ANAGRAM, *by E. Moon, of Wells.*

AN Engliſh king if right tranſpos'd,
An Engliſh title ſtands diſclos'd.

A REBUS, *by T. Boult, of Exeter.*

A Foreign country firſt explore,
Fam'd for its wars in days of yore;
A vowel now pray recollect;
And laſt a river, Sirs, detect;
Join the initials, and you'll find
A heathen god come to your mind.

A REBUS, *by W. Gifford, of South Petherton.*

TWO-FIFTHS of him who did his Lord deny;
Two-ſevenths of that which often roars on high;
The initial of a chief by Maro ſung;
(His ſounding harp to notes immortal ſtrung)
The initial of that power on man impreſs'd;
(May its ſound dictates always ſway your breaſt!)
One half of that which you and I muſt uſe,
If we to others tell our different views:
Connect all theſe aright, and they will ſhew
A well-known town of Somerſet to view.

POETRY.

For the Weekly Entertainer.

A paſtoral Elegy on Mrs. Mary Robinſon.

YE ſhepherds adieu to your flocks!
Adieu to each pipe and each crook!
Since the pride of the valley is dead,
View the hills, ah! how mournful they look.

She is gone, whoſe ſoft ſong was more ſweet,
Than the nightingales "warbling "their loves;"
And ſwifter the tread of her feet
Than the wind o'er yon valley that moves.

Farewell to the plains and the groves!
Your beauties no longer I prize,
Since gone is the nymph of your love,
And gone all your charms from my eyes.

No more will I wantonly ſtray,
But penſively wander alone;
And oft at the cloſe of the day
Lift an anguiſhing ſigh on her ſtone.

Cut off in the ſpring of her life,
The joy and the fav'rite of all,
The boaſt of each valley and hill,
Ye rivers lament her ſad fall.

Oh mourn her ſad fate, ye dark woods,
Your receſſes were fam'd for her love;
Oh mourn her departed, ye floods!
As your torrents ſo rapidly move.

As the roſe when o'ercharg'd with dew,
Droops low, quite oppreſs'd with the weight,
Before the firſt blaſt that ſhall blow,
Fall an emblem of death at your feet.

So her beauties tho' lovely they ſeem'd,
Were borne down by death's mercileſs dart;
Too true ſhe droop'd low, and I ſigh'd,
Since gone is the joy of my heart.

Ye yew trees, your ſhade kindly lend,
To cover the earth where ſhe lies;
Ye ſwains ſcatter flowers around,
And mix with the air your ſad ſighs.

Ye violets, ſpring on her grave,
Ye jeſſamines, twine round her ſtone;
Her mem'ry, ye ſhepherds, oft mourn,
For "the daughter of beauty" is gone.

ALEXIS.

For the Weekly Entertainer.

Verſes inſcribed to the Memory of the brave Soldiers who have fallen in the late Conteſt.

HOW happy ſleeps the ſoldier brave,
Who on the bed of honour lies;
Tho' far from home he meets his end,
His grateful mem'ry never dies.

But o'er his much-lamented tomb,
His all-applauding country bends,
And ranks the man that for her dies,
Among the deareſt of her friends.

What tho' the wintry winds blow cold,
As o'er his hallow'd grave they fly;
Or damp cold dews ſhould on him reſt,
Or wintry ſnows ſhould on him lie.

Yet ſhall he ſleep, as ſound, as ſtill,
As thoſe who lie in vaulted ſtate;
For theſe, but few ſhall mourn their doom;
For thoſe, their country weeps their fate.

PHAON.

Extract from "The Culprit," an Elegy, by Nathaniel Bloomfield.

WHEN liſt'ning, with ſuſpended breath,
A wretch his dreadful ſentence hears,
In martial court, where worſe than death
The military culprit fears.

And when encircled by the band,
Lingering torments, public ſhame,
Severity's moſt ruthleſs hand
Lacerates his manly frame:

When many a hardy ſoldier weeps,
And grieves that he's compell'd to ſlay

Who perforce his ſtation keeps,
Or would ſoon be far away;

Yet ſee beyond the circling guard,
Idle gazers flocking round,
To ſee and hear are preſſing hand,
As if the ſpot were fairy ground.

What is it that a charm imparts?
Why do they preſs to hear and ſee?
Can it be that human hearts
Delight in human miſery?

When the inexorable hour
Chills the hopeleſs convict's blood;
When ſunk and drown'd his ev'ry power,
In ſorrow's overwhelming flood:

To view the ſcene the many run,
And o'er the hapleſs wretch to ſigh:
Nor once enquire the crime he's done;
They only come to ſee him die.

Various cares mankind employ;
But to gaze on human woe
Seems the univerſal joy,
For which they all their cares forego.

Each from his purſuit departs,
Suffering, dying man to ſee;
Surely there are human hearts
That joy in human miſery.

Where fictitious tragic woe
Entertains the gaudy ring,
Each the horror can forego,
And inſtant mental comfort bring.

When the ſpirits take alarm,
Prompt to anger, grief, or ſpleen,
Reaſon can diſſolve the charm,
And ſay, 'tis a fictitious ſcene.

But to ſcenes of real woe,
Where a wretch is truly dying,
Wherefore do ſuch numbers go,
What can be the joy of ſighing?

Men of thought, who ſoar ſerene,
And l-ttily philoſophize,
Will ſay they ſeek the ſolemn ſcene,
To contemplate and ſympathize.

And all the throng will tell you ſo:
'Tis ſympathy that brings them there;
They love to weep for others woe,
And come but to enjoy a tear.

If to *enjoy* the tear that ſtarts,
They run the ſorrow'd ſcene to ſee—
Alas! for pity—human hearts
Delight in human miſery.

A HAPPY REVIEW.

IN my youth I was careleſs and gay,
Freely joining in pleaſure's career;
'Twas the ſpring-time of life—it was May,
And ne'er thought of the date of the year.

But to vice's allurements not prone,
Buſy love whiſper'd ſoft in my ear;
"There's no comfort in living alone,
"And pray look to the date of the "year."

My fond heart gave aſſent, beating high,
And acknowledg'd the maid that was dear:
Ready Hymen ſoon faſten'd the tie—
Ever bleſt be the date of that year!

Many ſummers roll'd on full of joy;
Many winters that never were drear,
And oft times or a girl or a boy
Gave delight to the date of the year.

Bred in harmony, virtue, and truth,
Happy faces around me appear;
And the grateful affections of youth,
Prove a balm to the date of the year.

While old friends, full of ſenſe, taſte, and knowledge,
Sweetens life with attachment ſincere;
And the ſtories of ſchool and of college
Seem'd improv'd from the date of the year.

Thus I've liv'd till my hair is grown grey,
And ſtill pleaſantly move in my ſphere;
For December is cheerful as May,
And content marks the date of the year.

Caſimir's Addreſs to the Dormant Roſe.

[From the Latin.]

CHILD of the vernal ſky, fair flow'r!
No longer hide thy charming face;
Awake to hope! awake to pow'r;
And emulate the morn-ſtar's grace!

Pale winter's fled on airy feet,
And all his chilling froſts are o'er;
Haſte, then, thy dew-diſtilling ſweet,
Haſte to unfold thy balmy ſtore.

Warm zephyr's gales, with am'rous haſte,
Wait to attend thee on thy way;
The honied floriſts long to taſte
Thy balmy kiſſes, as they play.

Edmonton.